1	2	3
3.	USA	
(i)	Memorandum of Understanding between the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, US Department of Energy, USA, and the Solar Energy Centre, MNES, India, for close cooperation in the field of testing of Solar Thermal and Photovoltaics products, exchange of non-proprietary scientific information, solar radiation data collection, analysis and dissemination, establishment of links between renewable energy information networks in both India and USA etc.	20.12.1994
(ii)	Agreement between US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for providing a total assistance of US$ 19 million with a component of US$ 12 million for power generation using alternate biomass during off-season, in sugar industry, under Green House Gases Pollution Prevention Project.	10.4.95
4.	Denmark	
(i)	Agreement with Danish Export Finance Corporation (DEFC) to provide tied aid credit of US$ 15 million as co-financing for wind energy component of "India: renewable Resources Development Project".	7.9.1995
(ii)	Exchange of letters between Government of India and Government of Denmark for a technical assistance of DKK 9,77,300/- to IREDA under Danish assistance for Wind Energy Sector.	6.12.1996
(iii)	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Government of Denmark for technical & financial support for establishment of a Wind Turbine Test Station in Tamil Nadu.	3.6.1997
B.	Multilateral	
1.	UNESCO	
	An International System for Energy Expertise and Knowlede (ISEEK) implementation agreement between UNESCO and Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for information exchange.	14.2.1996
2.	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	
	Agreement between ADB and Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency for providing credit of US$ million for implementation of Renewable Energy Development Project By IREDA.	24.4.1997

Shortage of Cables

*229. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to acute shortage of cables and other equipments the expansion work of Telephone Exchanges has been stagnated in Kerala and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) No Sir. There is no stagnation of expansion work of Telephone Exchanges. During 1996-97, 172775 new telephone connections were provided in Kerala and 163053 were provided in Gujarat. It is proposed to provide 2.62 lakh new telephone connections in Kerala and 2.08 lakh in Gujarat during 1997-98. Every effort will be made to achieve the targets for the year 1997-98.

Tatkal Phone Service

*230. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the performance progress of "Tatkal" phone scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the new phone connections provided in rural/urban areas under the scheme;

(c) the details of waiting lists for telephone in major towns of Maharashtra as on June 1997;

(d) the action taken/proposed to provide new-connections during the current year;

(e) whether the costly telephone equipments are lying idle/not functioning in various districts of Maharashtra; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to make them functional?